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UFOs may be real admits Russia

UFO sightings under probe in Australia

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — The Australian air force began a UFO investigation following hundreds of reports of four, multicolored cylindrical shapes hovering over the town of Bendigo. One explanation was that the unidentified flying objects were caused by a rock band practicing with a laser lighting system, the air force said. The air force's command intelligence officer, Flight Lt. Brett Biddington, left for Bendigo, 100 miles northwest of Melbourne, to "find out whether there is a rational explanation" for the UFOs.

MOSCOW (AAP): A Soviet newspaper said today Unidentified Flying Objects could exist.

It said a Soviet fighter plane had a brush with a mystery object two years ago.

The weekly Sovetskaya Kultura said there still were many unexplained phenomena behind various "flying saucer" reports and urged scientists to collect and collate as much information as possible on the subject.

Many senior Soviet scientists "do not deny that such phenomena could be connected with extra-terrestrial civilisation," the newspaper said, adding that among them was a corresponding member of the elite Academy of Science.

In an example of recent strange happenings in the Soviet Union itself, the report said a fighter plane encountered a "fiery ball" five metres in diameter, in 1981.

Damage

The ball had travelled in front of the craft for some distance "as if measuring its speed" and had then passed through it, exploding as it reached the tail and causing structural damage.

Scientists had at first assumed the phenomenon was ball lightning, but the damage to the plane did not tally with this, and lightning would not be able to move in the same direction as the fighter, the newspaper said.

It also revealed that the Soviet Union was working on plans for a long-distance unmanned space mission in order to try to track down signs of civilisation on distant planets.

Valid visions

HOUSTON POST 4/13/83

Clairvoyant leads rescuers to lost woman

BRADENTON, Fla. (UPI) — A California clairvoyant who saw "visions" of a densely wooded area led deputies Tuesday to a 56-year-old woman who had been missing for three days, authorities said.

Myrtle Nason, who wandered away from her home at the Gulf Lakes Estates Trailer Park early Saturday, was found in knee-deep water by clairvoyant Beatrice Lydecker and Manatee County deputies, said Detective Sgt. Donna Combee.

"I know it sounds funny, but if it hadn't been for Bea and her visions of that area, there wouldn't have been a happy ending to this story," Combee said. "We just never would have found her on our own."

Nason was taken to a hospital suffering from dehydration and exposure after being unable to find her way out of the thicket.

Deputies had searched for her since Saturday when her husband, William, reported her missing.

"We had no idea where this lady could have gone," Combee said. "She took no personal belongings, no suitcases — just the clothes she was wearing. She has a history of emotional problems. She was disoriented and she just wandered away."

Combee decided Sunday to ask Lydecker to help because she has assisted other police departments in finding missing persons.

Lydecker, who was in nearby Sarasota visiting her parents at the time, looked at a picture of Nason and then searched the missing woman's trailer.

"Beatrice began picking up the lady's state of mind by looking at her trailer," said Combee. "She found out she was confused, dis-

oriented. And soon after, she began describing a certain wooded area to us with a small pond.

"We took her yesterday to every pond we knew of in the area of the trailer park, but she kept saying, 'No, no, no, this isn't right.'"

Finally, Lydecker led deputies early Tuesday to a thickly wooded area directly across from the trailer park, about 100 yards from the road.

"It was close to the trailer, but the area is so dense and tangled, we never ever, ever figured anyone could get in there," Combee said. "We never would have launched a search in that area if Bea hadn't insisted."

"When we got there, the area was exactly as Bea had described, just exactly. And the missing woman was there, just like Bea said. It was really something."

INFORMATION, DATA, COMMENTARY AND SPECULATION

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News

• Classified

Cause sought for blackout in Austin

AUSTIN (AP) — A bird building a nest or a snake crossing the wires may have caused the blackout that affected half a million people in Austin and the surrounding area, officials said Friday.

H.L. Peterson, deputy director of the city electric department, said no definite cause had been pinpointed for the outage that left the Texas capital without power for up to five hours Thursday.

"Something initiated the (malfunction), like a snake, or a bird building a nest and getting a wire crossed," he said.

The problem began at one electric substation and relayed throughout the system after safeguards at a substation about four miles away did not work.

"It's possibly like a fuse that was set too high and didn't operate," said Austin Mayor Ron Mullen.

The blackout engulfed all of Travis County and spread as far east as Giddings, 60 miles from here.

Mullen congratulated residents of Austin for getting through the blackout with no reports of major problems.

"The number of traffic accidents was very low compared to what they could have been," he said. "There was a great deal of courtesy. Crime did not rise significantly at all."

Blackouts "can bring out the worst or the best in people, and in our city it brought out the best," the mayor said.

Peterson said the "complete shutdown" hit at 7:26 p.m. Power to some areas was restored by 8:30 p.m., as the city drew electricity from other systems. Most areas had electricity restored by 10:07 p.m.

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Houston Chronicle

This clip was provided by a fellow aerospace engineer. Sometimes the humor is the most pleasurable part of this business.



AP Wirephoto

DOG FOILS LANDING

CIA will accept disclosure bill

Globe-Democrat-Washington Post News Service

WASHINGTON — The Central Intelligence Agency, which tried last year to have all of its files exempted from public scrutiny under the Freedom of Information Act, has told congressional leaders it is now willing to live with a limited exemption.

CIA spokesman Dale Peterson said Monday the agency will support a bill introduced last week by Sen. Barry M. Goldwater, R-Ariz., chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, that would give only the agency's so-called "operational files" a blanket exemption from disclosure.

These files keep track of the way the agency gathers intelligence.